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UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/010,641	11/05/2001	Kristen L. Bhatti	10017079-1	4887

7590   09/07/2006

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EXAMINER
SINGH, SATWANT K

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2625	

DATE MAILED: 09/07/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Office Action Summary	10/010,641	BHATTI, KRISTEN L.
	Examiner	**Art Unit**	
	Satwant K. Singh	2625	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *31 May 2006*.

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1,2,4-6,8-10,13,15 and 17-20* is/are pending in the application.

   4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1,2,4-6,8-10,13,15 and 17-20* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on *05 November 2001* is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

   Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

   Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

   a)☐ All   b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

   1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

   2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

   3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

   * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
   Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
   Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1.   This office action is in response to the amendment filed on 31 May 2006.

Response to Arguments

2.   Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1, 8, 13, and 17 have been

considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

3.   The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

> The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly
> claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

4.   Claims 1, 8, 13, and 17 recite the limitation "such that the printer receives the

print job at the time identified by the user input and then the printer prints the print job".

There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim. There is no

disclosure in the specification for this limitation. The specification discloses the

limitation for transmitting the print job at an identified time, but not that the printer

receives it at an identified time.

5.   Claim 17 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite

for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant

regards as the invention. Claim 17 recites the limitation "transmission of the print job

from a user workstation to a printer in response to the determination logic determining

that the current time corresponds to the user-determined time such that the printer

receives the print job at the time identified by the user-determined time". This would

make the transmission and reception of the print job instantaneous, which is not

possible.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

6.   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

7.   Claims 1, 2, 5, 6, 8, 10, 13, 15, and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as

being unpatentable over Sato (JP 09146763) in view Dennis et al. (US 5,471,564).

8.   Regarding Claim 1, Sato teaches a method for scheduling, comprising: providing,

at a user workstation, information as a job (automation of starting of a job) (detailed

description paragraph [0002]); receiving a user input at the user workstation identifying

a time for starting the job (drawing 1, starting time designated job 1) (detailed

description paragraph [0008]); and transmitting the job from the user workstation at the

time identified by the user input such that the job is received at the time identified by the

user input (job is certainly started at the specified time of day) (detailed description,

paragraph [0003]).

Sato fails to teach a method, wherein the job is a print job and comprising

transmitting the print job to the printer.

Dennis et al teach a method for print scheduling, wherein the job is a print job

and comprising transmitting the print job to the printer (resource scheduler 216 located

within computer 202) (col. 9, lines 25-43).

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time

of the invention to have combined the teachings of Sato with the teaching of Dennis to

let the resource scheduler within the computer control the timing of the printer operation.

9.   Regarding Claim 2, Sato teaches a method, further comprising: receiving a

second user input, at the user workstation, identifying a date for the job; and wherein

the job is transmitted on a date corresponding to the date identified by the second user

input (drawing 1, scheduler 5) (detailed description, paragraphs [0009] and [0010]).

Sato fails to teach a method, wherein the job is a print job and comprising

transmitting the print job to the printer.

Dennis et al teach a method for print scheduling, wherein the job is a print job

and comprising transmitting the print job to the printer (resource scheduler 216 located

within computer 202) (col. 9, lines 25-43).

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time

of the invention to have combined the teachings of Sato with the teaching of Dennis to

let the resource scheduler within the computer control the timing of the printer operation.

10.   Regarding Claim 5, Sato fails to teach a method, wherein the printer is one of a

laser printer, an ink-jet printer, an impact printer, a solid-ink printer, and a multifunction

device.

Dennis et al teach a method, wherein the printer is one of a laser printer, an ink-

jet printer, an impact printer, a solid-ink printer, and a multifunction device (col. 6, lines

6-9).

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have combined the teachings of Sato with the teaching of Dennis to allow the computer to control the printer.

11.   Regarding Claim 6, Sato fails to teach a method, further comprising: receiving a second user input identifying the printer.

Dennis et al teach a method, further comprising: receiving a second user input identifying the printer (dialog between host computer and the printer) (col. 5, lines 41-47).

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have combined the teachings of Sato with the teaching of Dennis to allow the computer to control the printer.

12.   Claims 8 and 13 are rejected for the same reason as claim 1.

13.   Claim 10 is rejected for the same reason as claim 2.

14.   Regarding Claim 15, Sato teaches a scheduling system, wherein the means for initiating transmission is a digital processor of the user workstation (drawing 1, time designated job management means 7) (detailed description, paragraphs [0009] - [0011]).

15.   Regarding Claim 17, Sato teaches a computer readable medium having stored thereon logic comprising: determination logic for determining if a current time corresponds to a user- determined time for a job (drawing 1, starting time designated job 1) (detailed description paragraph [0008]); and initiation logic for initiating the transmission of the job from a user workstation in response to the determination logic

determining that the current time corresponds to the user-determined time (drawing 1,

time designated job management means 7) (detailed description, paragraphs [0009] –

[0011]) such that the job is received at the time identified by the user- determined time

(job is certainly started at the specified time of day) (detailed description, paragraph

[0003]).

Sato fails to teach a method, wherein the job is a print job and comprising

transmitting the print job to the printer.

Dennis et al teach a method for print scheduling, wherein the job is a print job

and comprising transmitting the print job to the printer (resource scheduler 216 located

within computer 202) (col. 9, lines 25-43).

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time

of the invention to have combined the teachings of Sato with the teaching of Dennis to

let the resource scheduler within the computer control the timing of the printer operation.

16.   Claims 4, 9, and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable

over Sato and Dennis et al as applied to claims 1, 8, and 17 above, and further in view

of Zhang et al. (US 6,016,478).

17.   Regarding Claim 4, Sato and Dennis et al fail to teach a print scheduling method,

wherein the print job comprises at least one of word processing data, spreadsheet data,

graphical data, and database data.

18.   Zhang et al teach a print scheduling method, wherein the print job comprises at

least one of word processing data, spreadsheet data, graphical data, and database data

(database management systems, wordprocessors, spreadsheets and the like) (col. 4,

lines 53-67).

19.   Therefore it would have been obvious of one of ordinary skill in the art at the time

of the invention to have combined the teachings of Sato and Dennis with the teaching of

Zhang to have the contents of the transmitted print jobs to be comprised of word

processing documents, spreadsheet documents, or the like to allow the user to be able

to print various types of documents.

20.   Claims 9 and 18 are rejected for the same reason as claim 4.

21.   Claims 19 and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable

over Sato and Dennis et al as applied to claim 17 above, and further in view of Okimoto

et al. (US 6,449,055).

22.   Regarding Claim 19, Sato and Dennis et al fail to teach a computer readable

medium wherein the computer readable medium comprises volatile memory.

Okimoto et al teach a computer readable medium wherein the computer readable

medium comprises volatile memory (Fig, 2(b) RAM 133).

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time

of the invention to have combined the teachings of Sato and Dennis with the teaching of

Okimoto to comprise the computer memory with RAM and ROM wince most computers

on the market today are manufactured with RAM and ROM.

23.   Regarding Claim 20, Sato and Dennis et al fail to teach a computer readable

medium wherein the computer readable medium comprises non-volatile memory.

Okimoto et al teach a computer readable medium wherein the computer readable medium comprises non-volatile memory (Fig, 2(b) ROM 138).

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have combined the teachings of Sato and Dennis with the teaching of Okimoto to comprise the computer memory with RAM and ROM wince most computers on the market today are manufactured with RAM and ROM

Conclusion

24.   Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.
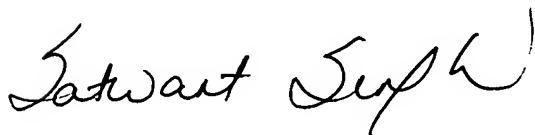
Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Satwant K. Singh whose telephone number is (571)

272-7468. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday thru Friday 8am -
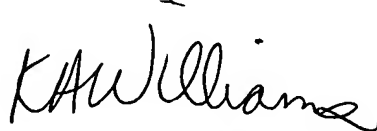
4:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, Kimberly A. Williams can be reached on (571) 272-7471. The fax phone

number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-

273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the

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USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information

system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Satwant K. Singh
Examiner
Art Unit 2625

sks

KIMBERLY WILLIAMS
SUP---   -XAMINER